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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR OCTOBER 1989 DECEMBER 1989

D.C. Unemployment in October 4.4%

D.C. Rate Below National Rate for the Fifth Consecutive Month

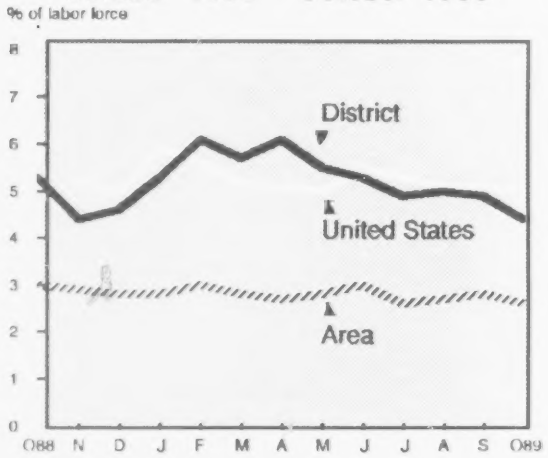
Labor Force

In October, the District's unemployment rate recorded a significant decline, falling from 4.9 percent in September to 4.4 percent in October. This was the lowest unemployment rate for the month of October in eighteen years—since the 3.6 percent registered in October 1971. The unemployment rates in both the Area and the suburbs also declined between September and October, from 2.8 percent to 2.6 percent in the Area and from 2.5 percent to 2.3 percent in the suburbs. Both levels signal a continuation of a very tight labor market as the local economy heads for the traditional holiday hiring season. Unemployment across the United States in October measured 5.0 percent, seasonally adjusted, for all civilian workers. This was the fifth consecutive month that the District's unemployment rate fell below the national rate.

The District

In the District, 5,000 additional residents acquired jobs in October. This employment expansion was large enough to absorb a 3,600 person increase in the labor supply and still draw 1,400 people off the unemployment rolls. The monthly pattern of increased employment and

Unemployment Rates
October 1988 - October 1989



decreased unemployment is traditional for the month of October, but larger than expected. Over the past eighteen years, the unemployment rate between September and October generally declines about three-tenths of a percentage point, but this year's change was half of a percentage point. **The 14,500 unemployed residents were the smallest number on the jobless rolls in October since the 12,700 recorded 18 years ago in October 1971.** October also represents the third month this year and the second in a row that the City's rate was below 5.0 percent.

Continued on page 3

Government of the District of Columbia
Marion Barry, Jr., Mayor

Department of Employment Services
F. Alexis H. Roberson
Director

The Department of Employment Services

Working to keep Washington working.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR OCTOBER 1989 — DECEMBER 1989

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The *Area Labor Summary* is published monthly by the D.C. Department of Employment Services, 500 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The Labor Market Information and Research Staff (Richard Groner, Chief) prepares the *Summary*. The following staff members have contributed to the publication and development of data herein: Charles Roeslin, Rufus Daniels, Eileen Dent, Nancy Anderson-Grant, Elsie Taylor, and Gwendolyn Thompson, and administrative support was provided by Robin McDonald.

Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

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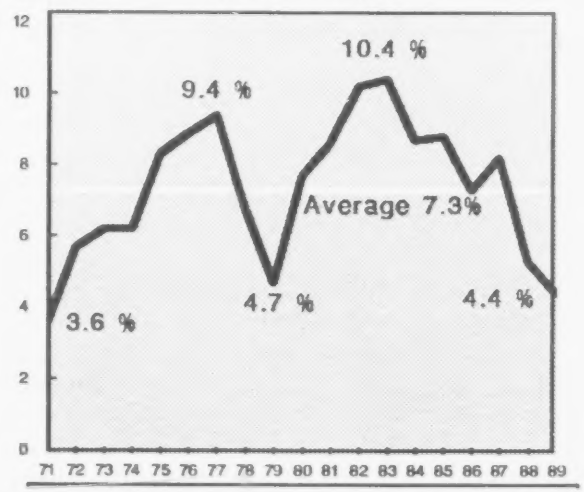
For the first 10 months of this year, the rate has averaged 5.3 percent or slightly above the record low 1988 annual average of 5.0 percent.

Compared to the same month last year (October 1988), the unemployment rate is down a substantial nine-tenths of a percentage point. However, this improvement in the rate reflects primarily a small decline in the labor supply, rather than an expansion in employment. Compared to October a year ago, there are now 4,500 fewer District residents working or looking for work. This decline in supply reflects 3,200 fewer persons on the roster of the unemployed and a 1,300-person decline in people on payrolls. Thus, this year the District is providing fewer workers to offset the Area's labor shortage.

District Unemployment Rates In the Month of October
1971 - 1989



The Area & Suburbs

During October there was only a very tiny increase (800) in the supply of labor in the suburbs. On the other hand, 3,600 additional suburbanites found jobs. Because the growth in employment was larger than the increase in the labor supply, the pool of suburban unemployed shrunk by 2,900 and the suburban unemployment rate declined to only 2.3 percent of the labor supply—a very small worker reserve to meet the expected holiday employment expansion.

Compared to a year ago (October 1988), the suburban labor supply has grown by a substantial 4.9 percent or 91,200 new workers. However, 99 percent or 90,200 found jobs. Thus, over the year there was only an insignificant 900-person increase in the already small pool of available workers actively looking for jobs. The result was another tenth of a percentage point reduction in the already very low suburban unemployment rate between October 1988 and October 1989.

During October, labor market transactions in the District and the suburbs combined to produce a 4,400-person increase in the Area's labor force bringing the total number of Area residents working or looking for work to nearly 2.3 million people. **The Area's labor force is now larger than the labor force found in 29 States.** Like in most months this year, however, Area employment

Continued on page 4

Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C. MSA by City and County

	Oct. a/ 1989	Sept. b/ 1989	Oct. b/ 1988
District of Columbia	4.4	4.9	5.3
Prince Georges County	3.2	3.7	3.6
Calvert County	3.2	3.6	3.7
Frederick County	2.5	2.8	2.5
Montgomery County	2.3	2.7	2.5
Alexandria City	2.3	2.2	2.0
Stafford County	2.3	1.8	1.9
Charles County	2.2	2.6	2.8
Prince William County	2.1	2.0	2.0
Fairfax City	2.1	1.8	1.7
Arlington County	2.0	1.8	1.7
Fairfax County	1.9	1.7	1.7
Loudoun County	1.7	1.6	1.4
Manassas City	1.7	1.4	1.8
Falls Church City	1.7	1.3	1.6
Manassas Park City	1.4	1.3	1.3

a/ Preliminary
b/ Revised
SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the Virginia Employment Commission

Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
October 1989[a]

	Oct.[b] 1989	Sept.[c] 1989	Oct.[d] 1988	Sept.[d] 1988	Net Change From Sept.[c] 1989	Net Change From Oct.[d] 1988
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	330,200	326,600	334,700	335,100	3,600	-4,500
Total Employed	315,700	310,700	317,000	316,600	5,000	-1,300
Total Unemployed	14,500	15,900	17,700	18,600	-1,400	-3,200
Unemployment Rate[e]	4.4	4.9	5.3	5.5	-0.5	-0.9
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,955,100	1,954,300	1,863,900	1,854,400	800	91,200
Total Employed	1,909,100	1,905,500	1,818,900	1,802,900	3,600	90,200
Total Unemployed	45,900	48,800	45,000	51,300	-2,900	900
Unemployment Rate[e]	2.3	2.5	2.4	2.8	-0.2	-0.1
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,285,300	2,280,900	2,198,600	2,189,500	4,400	86,700
Total Employed	2,224,800	2,216,200	2,135,900	2,119,500	8,600	88,900
Total Unemployed	60,400	64,700	62,700	69,900	-4,300	-2,300
Unemployment Rate[e]	2.6	2.8	2.9	3.2	-0.2	-0.3

a Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b. Preliminary. c. Revised.
d. Data reflects Benchmark Revisions. e. Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia; the Virginia cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and Stafford; and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick, and Calvert.

Source: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Continued from page 3

growth exceeded the growth of the labor force and the number of people in the pool of unemployed shrunk. As noted, the Area in October added 4,400 new workers to the labor force, but 8,600 people found jobs, and the jobless pool of available workers fell by 4,300. These Area labor market transactions produced a decline of two-tenths of a percentage point in the unemployment rate, decreasing from 2.8 percent in September to 2.6 percent in October.

The Area's over-the-year pattern was the same. The employment expansion of 88,900 or 4.2 percent was larger than the growth in the new labor supply of 86,700 or 3.9 percent. As a consequence, an additional 2,300 people were drawn from the Area's unemployment reserves and the Area's unemployment rate declined from 2.9 percent in October 1988 to 2.6 percent in October 1989. This means that the Washington Area continues to have the tightest major labor market in the nation.

Labor Force Distribution
Washington Metropolitan Area
October 1989 & October 1988
(percent)

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		October 1989	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	14.4	14.2	24.0
Suburbs	85.6	85.8	76.0
		October 1988	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	15.2	14.9	28.2
Suburbs	84.8	85.1	71.8

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits totaled 7,300 in October 1989—down 1,283 claimants from September. In October, 51 percent of all UI recipients were males. Occupationally, professional, technical and managerial workers accounted for 28 percent of the total claimants. This was followed by clerical and sales with 27 percent. Service workers ranked third accounting for 19 percent of the claimants.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 10.5 weeks for all claimants in October. Over the month, the duration for males decreased from 10.6 weeks to 10.4 weeks, while that for females increased from 10.2 weeks to 10.6 weeks. In October 1988, the average duration for males was 9.8 weeks and for females 10.2 weeks.

Job Growth

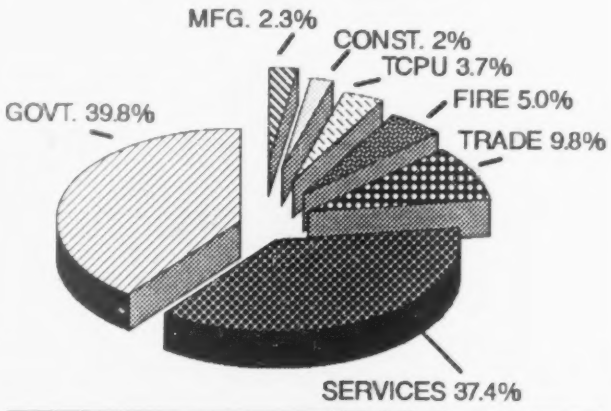
The District

The number of jobs in the District increased by 3,800 for a gain of 0.6 percent between September and October. The private sector accounted for all of the growth with seasonal gains in Services (2,600 jobs) and Retail Trade (1,700 jobs). Gains in All Other Services (1,000 jobs) and Legal Services (600 jobs) were primarily responsible for the Services growth while Eating and Drinking Places (1,000 jobs) was the major producer of Retail Trade jobs.

The public sector declined by 300 jobs with a loss in Federal Government (400 jobs) partially offset by growth in State and Local Government (100 jobs).

Over the year (October 1988 to October 1989), the number of District jobs increased 2.5 percent for a gain of 17,000 jobs. The private sector grew at a rate of 3.3 percent, generating 13,200 jobs and accounting for 78 percent of all new jobs. The leading job contributor, Services, provided 11,500 jobs and accounted for 87 percent of private sector growth. The major components of Services growth were Business Services (3,400 jobs), All Other Services (3,000 jobs), Legal Services (1,600 jobs), Health Services (1,500 jobs) and Hotels (1,100 jobs). An additional 1,100 jobs were generated by Wholesale and Retail Trade. The public sector increased 1.4 percent with growth in Federal Government (3,900 jobs).

Distribution of District Jobs October 1989



The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs increased 0.6 percent for a gain of 9,000 jobs between September and October. The public sector accounted for 74 percent of the increase with a seasonal gain in State and Local Government (6,100 jobs) and growth in Federal Government (600 jobs). The Maryland suburbs were responsible for 54 percent of the growth in State and Local Government while the Virginia suburbs accounted for the growth in Federal jobs.

The private sector increased by 2,300 jobs with seasonal gains in Services (2,400 jobs) occurring in the Virginia suburbs.

Over the year (October 1988 to October 1989), suburban jobs grew at a rate of 4.2 percent for a gain of 63,200 jobs. The Virginia suburbs grew at a rate of 6.3 percent accounting for three-fourths of suburban growth while the Maryland suburbs increased at a rate of 2.1 percent.

The private sector accounted for 82 percent of suburban growth with the major job producer,

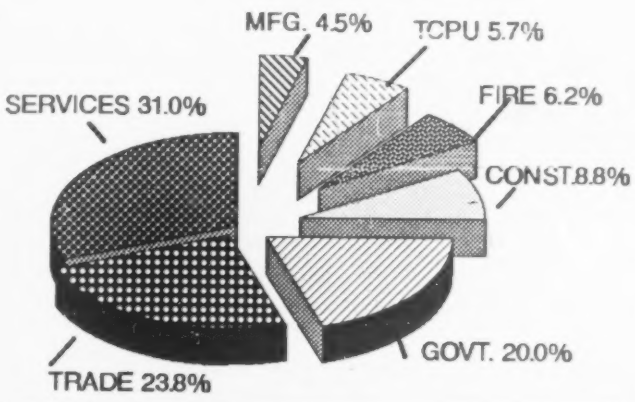
Continued on page 6

Continued from page 5

Services (24,600 jobs), responsible for 48 percent of private sector growth. Eighty-four percent of the Services growth occurred in the Virginia suburbs as did 77 percent of the growth in Trade (9,500 jobs), Construction (7,800 jobs), Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (6,000 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (4,400 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 3.8 percent with gains in both Federal Government (4,300 jobs) and State and Local Government (7,300 jobs). Eighty-one percent of the Federal job growth occurred in the Virginia Suburbs while the Maryland suburbs provided 56 percent of the new State and Local Government jobs.

Distribution of Suburban Jobs
October 1989



The Area

The Washington Metropolitan Area gained 12,800 jobs between September and October for an increase of 0.6 percent. The public sector was responsible for 51 percent of the growth with seasonal gains in State and Local Government (6,200 jobs).

The private sector increased by 6,300 jobs with primarily seasonal growth in Services (5,000 jobs) and Wholesale and Retail Trade (2,400 jobs).

Over the year (October 1988 to October 1989), the Area grew at a rate of 3.7 percent for a gain of 80,200 jobs. The private sector grew at a rate of 4.0 percent, generating 64,800 jobs and accounting for 81 percent of all new area jobs. The leading job producers, Services (36,100 jobs) and Trade (10,600 jobs), were responsible for 72 percent of all new private sector jobs. Significant private sector growth was also provided by Construction (8,300 jobs), Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (6,400 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (4,400 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 2.7 percent with growth in both Federal Government (8,100 jobs) and State and Local Government (7,200 jobs).

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- Employer Workshops
- Resume Bank
- Labor Market Information

Department of Employment Services

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work [a]
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Oct. [b] 1989	Sept. [c] 1989	Oct. [c] 1988	Oct. [b] 1989	Sept. [c] 1989	Oct. [c] 1988
TOTAL	**692.1**	**688.3**	**675.1**	**2,270.7**	**2,257.9**	**2,190.5**
Total Private Sector	**416.3**	**412.2**	**403.1**	**1,679.2**	**1,672.9**	**1,614.4**
Total Government	**275.8**	**276.1**	**272.0**	**591.5**	**585.0**	**576.1**
Manufacturing	**16.0**	**16.0**	**16.3**	**86.4**	**86.5**	**87.2**
Total Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	41.1	41.4	41.5
Stone, Clay, Glass, and Concrete Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.4	3.5	3.4
Electrical & Electronic Machinery, Equip., & Supp.	N/A	N/A	N/A	18.4	18.4	18.9
All Other Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	19.3	19.4	19.1
Total Non-Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	45.3	45.1	45.7
Food & Kindred Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.8	4.9	4.6
Printing & Publishing	13.3	13.2	13.3	35.0	34.7	35.2
All Other Non-Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.5	5.5	5.9
All Other Manufacturing	2.7	2.8	3.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.1**	**1.2**	**1.2**
Construction	**13.5**	**13.6**	**13.0**	**152.4**	**153.5**	**144.1**
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	**25.5**	**25.4**	**25.1**	**115.6**	**114.6**	**109.2**
Railroad	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.1	5.1	4.9
Transportation ex. Railroad	N/A	N/A	N/A	57.2	56.4	52.0
All Transportation	9.9	9.9	9.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Communication & Public Utilities	15.6	15.5	15.6	53.3	53.2	52.3
Trade	**67.8**	**66.1**	**66.7**	**442.8**	**440.4**	**432.2**
Wholesale	9.3	9.4	9.0	77.2	77.1	76.0
Retail	58.5	56.8	57.7	365.6	363.3	356.2
General Merchandise	4.7	4.6	4.4	43.5	43.0	40.6
Food	N/A	N/A	N/A	48.9	49.0	47.4
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	38.8	39.3	39.1
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	28.0	27.2	28.3
Eating & Drinking Places	29.1	28.1	29.0	118.1	117.2	114.7
All Other Retail	24.7	24.1	24.3	88.4	87.5	86.1
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**34.9**	**35.0**	**34.8**	**132.9**	**133.6**	**128.5**
Banking	6.9	6.8	6.8	25.2	25.0	23.9
All Other	28.0	28.2	28.0	107.7	108.6	104.6
Services	**258.6**	**256.0**	**247.1**	**748.1**	**743.1**	**712.0**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	16.5	16.1	15.4	39.2	39.0	36.6
Personal Services	4.1	4.0	4.0	23.1	23.0	23.3
Business Services	59.4	59.1	56.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	6.2	6.1	5.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	37.1	36.9	35.6	N/A	N/A	N/A

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work [a]
(in thousands)

INDUSTRY	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
	Oct. [b] 1989	Sept. [c] 1989	Oct. [c] 1988	Oct. [b] 1989	Sept. [c] 1989	Oct. [c] 1988
Legal Services	29.3	28.7	27.7	N/A	N/A	N/A
Membership Organizations	33.1	33.1	32.4	N/A	N/A	N/A
All Other Services	79.0	78.0	76.0	685.8	681.1	652.2
Government	**275.8**	**276.1**	**272.0**	**591.5**	**585.0**	**576.1**
Federal Government	220.4	220.8	216.5	366.1	365.9	358.0
State & Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	225.3	219.1	218.1
State & Local Gov. Except Public Transportation	50.2	50.1	50.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Public Transportation	5.2	5.2	4.9	N/A	NA	N/A

a. Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. b. Preliminary. c. Revised.

Data includes all full- and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

Source: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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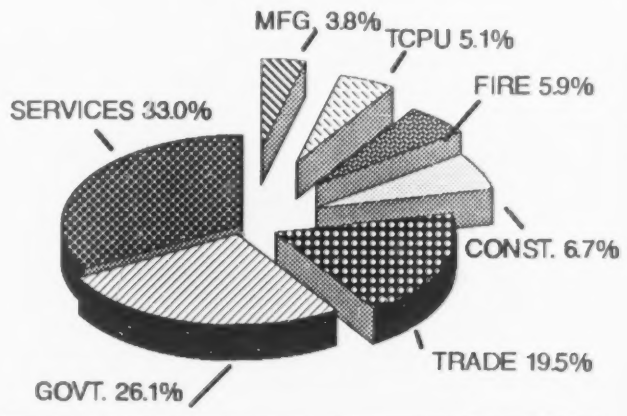
Distribution of Area Jobs
October 1989



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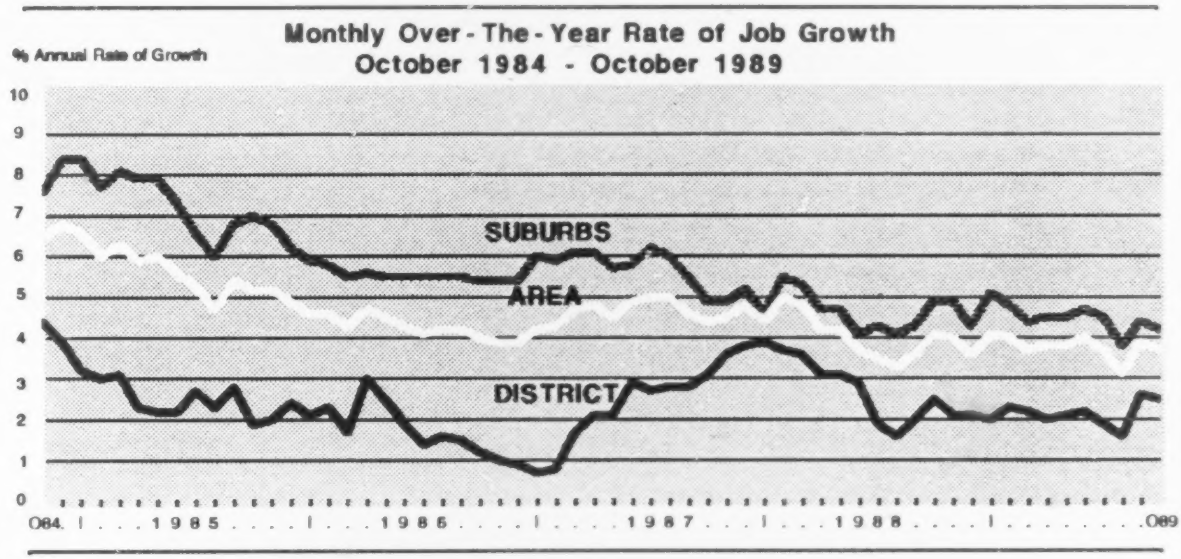


Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past 5 years, (October 1984 to October 1989), the Washington Area has created new jobs at a rate of 4.6 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has been steadily declining after peaking at 6.8 percent in December 1984. Between October 1988 and October 1989, the Area's job growth slowed to 3.7 percent. The over-the-year rate this October was slower than the 4.1 percent recorded in October of last year.

The Suburban portion of the Area is still the generator of most new jobs, having grown over the past year at a rate of 4.2 percent, but at a much slower pace than its 60 month long-term average of 5.7 percent. Compared to the same period last year, growth was slightly slower than the 4.9 percent registered in October 1988. Over the past year, the District proper has added new jobs at a rate of 2.5 percent and above its 60-month average of 2.4 percent. In October 1988, the annual job creation rate in the City was also 2.5 percent.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from 111,800 new jobs produced between October 1983 and October 1984, to 80,200 between October 1988 and October 1989. Over the past year, 63,200 new jobs were added to the Suburban economy and 17,000 in the District. **The Washington Area continues to create new jobs at a faster pace than the U.S. economy (3.7 percent vs. 2.7 percent for the U.S. economy).**

Profile of Job Growth Rates
October 1984 to October 1989

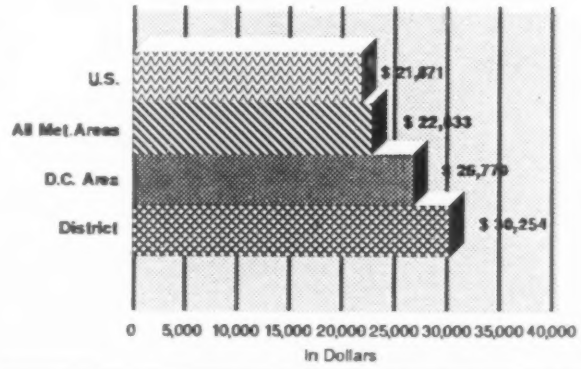
The Area	
Average 60 months	4.6%
High, December 1984	6.8%
Low, August 1989	3.2%
October 1988	4.1%
Current month	3.7%
The Suburbs	
Average 60 months	5.7%
High, January 1985	8.4%
Low, August 1989	4.0%
October 1988	4.9%
Current month	4.2%
The District	
Average 60 months	2.4%
High, October 1984	4.4%
Low, January 1987	0.7%
October 1988	2.5%
Current month	2.5%

PAY PROFILE:

THE WASHINGTON AREA IN 1988

On the average, workers in the Washington Metropolitan Area were paid $26,779 during 1988. For persons working in the District the average was $30,254.[1] Thus, people employed in the District proper received on average 11.5 percent more than the average for all Washington Area workers.

Annual Average Pay 1988

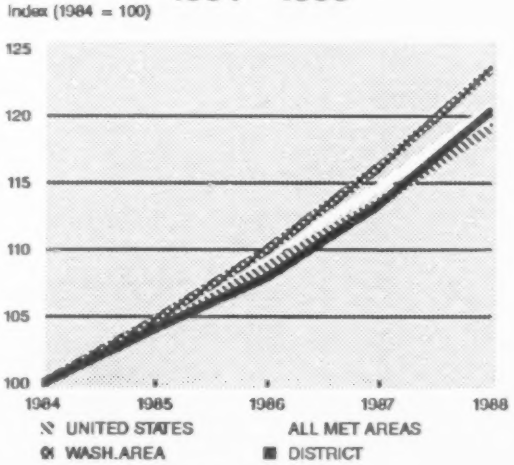


According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average pay of workers in 381 metropolitan areas across the United States was $22,833, or 14.7 percent less than in the Washington Area.[2] However, average pay in 1988 was higher in the New York ($30,578) and San Francisco ($27,859) areas. Regionally, average pay in the Philadelphia area was $23,895, the Baltimore area $22,242, the Richmond area $21,283 and the Norfolk area $18,983. So Washington Area workers were paid 10.8 percent more than Philadelphia's, 16.9 percent more than Baltimore's, 20.5 percent more than Richmond's and 49.6 percent more than Norfolk's workers. Across the United States, all workers were paid $20,855 in 1988, or 18.3 percent less than workers in the Washington Area.

Pay and Unemployment

In selected metropolitan areas, when annual wage increases and annual average unemployment rates were compared and ranked, it was found that generally the metropolitan areas with the largest pay increases tended to have the lowest unemployment rates. On the other hand, areas with smaller pay increases tended to have higher unemployment rates. For example, Boston had the second highest increase in wages and the second lowest unemployment rate. New Orleans had the smallest wage increase and the highest unemployment rate. Where there are tight labor markets, there is upward pressure on wage levels as employers compete for scarce labor through progressively higher wages. This seems to be the case in the Washington Area.

Index of Annual Average Pay: 1984 - 1988



Annual Pay 1984-1988

Annual average pay increases in the Washington Area over the past 5 years have been larger compared to those in all metropolitan areas, the District proper, and the United States. Washington Area pay between 1984 and 1988 increased 23.5 percent compared to only 20.6 percent in all metropolitan areas, 20.4 percent in the District and 19.2 percent for All American workers. While the annual pay increases in the Area have been relatively larger than in the District, the Area increases have not been significantly large enough to close the actual dollar differential between the City and the Area. For example in

Continued on page 11

[1] For detail pay by industry in the District, see October 1989 edition of the *Area Labor Summary*.

[2] Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Annual Pay Levels In Metropolitan Areas, 1988*, News Release, September 25, 1989.

Continued from page 10

1984, the Area/District gap was $3,429. By 1988, the difference actually increased by $46.00 to $3,475 in favor of the District despite the larger percentage increases in the Area.

During this same period, the Washington Area Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 15.7 percent (from 104.6 in 1984 to 121.0 in 1988). Thus in the past 5 years, on average, Washington Area workers have received a 7.8 percent increase in real wages. This difference, perhaps, helps explain the Area's growth over the past few years.

ANNUAL AVERAGE PAY
SELECTED METROPOLITAN AREAS
1987-1988
(in dollars)

Area	1987	1988*	% Change
New York, NY	28,179	30,578	8.5
THE DISTRICT	28,477	30,254	6.2
San Francisco, CA	26,594	27,859	4.8
WASHINGTON, D.C.	25,210	26,779	6.2
Detroit, MI	25,301	26,602	5.1
Los Angeles, CA	25,005	26,011	4.0
Boston, MA	23,888	25,731	7.7
Chicago, IL	24,059	25,688	6.8
Dallas, TX	23,624	24,463	3.6
Houston, TX	23,509	24,410	3.8
ALL METRO AREAS	21,722	22,833	5.1
Philadelphia, PA	22,447	23,895	6.5
Minneapolis, MN	22,385	23,618	5.5
Atlanta, GA	22,426	23,440	4.5
Seattle, WA	22,543	23,436	4.0
Cleveland, OH	21,985	23,051	4.8
Baltimore, MD	20,978	22,242	6.0
San Diego, CA	21,051	22,183	5.4
Pittsburgh, PA	21,019	21,945	4.4
UNITED STATES	20,857	21,871	4.9
Milwaukee, WI	20,838	21,800	4.6
Richmond, VA	20,374	21,283	4.5
New Orleans, LA	19,788	20,389	3.0
Norfolk, VA	18,268	18,983	3.9

*Preliminary
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

RANK BY WAGE INCREASES AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES SELECTED METROPOLITAN AREAS

(annual averages 1988)

Area	Rank			
	Wage Increase (%)	Unemployment Rate	% of Wage Increase	Unemployment Rate
New York, NY	1	7	8.5	4.7
Boston, MA	2	2	7.7	3.1
Chicago, IL	3	16	6.8	7.5
Philadelphia, PA	4	3	6.4	4.1
Washington, DC	5	1	6.2	3.0
Baltimore, MD	6	12	6.0	5.6
Minneapolis, MN	7	4	5.5	4.3
San Diego, CA	8	8	5.4	4.7
Detroit, MI	9	17	5.1	7.8
San Francisco, CA	10	6	4.8	4.4
Cleveland, OH	11	14	4.8	6.6
Milwaukee, WI	12	5	4.6	4.3
Atlanta, GA	13	9	4.5	4.9
Pittsburgh, PA	14	15	4.4	6.9
Seattle, WA	16	10	4.0	5.1
Los Angeles, CA	15	11	4.0	5.2
Houston, TX	17	18	3.8	7.9
Dallas, TX	18	13	3.6	5.6
New Orleans, LA	19	19	3.0	8.1
Average			**5.2**	**5.5**

ANNUAL AVERAGE PAY
1984-1985

(annual average-dollars)

	U.S.	All Met Areas	D.C. Area	District
1984	18,353	18,934	21,692	25,121
1985	19,189	19,851	22,727	26,160
1986	19,966	20,762	23,859	27,137
1987	20,857	21,722	25,210	28,477
1988	21,871	22,833	26,779	30,254
change	3,518	3,899	5,087	5,133
% change	19.2	20.6	23.5	20.4
Annual Change	3.8	4.1	4.7	4.1

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

In September 1989, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 257 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area's jobless rate was 2.8 percent—up from 2.6 percent recorded in August. This was the twelfth lowest of all 257 areas reporting. A year ago, the Washington Area rate was 3.2 percent.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 2.8 percent was the lowest of all the major metropolitan areas. The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington posted a September jobless rate of 3.4 percent up from 2.9 percent recorded in August. A year ago, the Richmond-Petersburg rate was 3.9 percent. Areas with the next lowest rates were in Nashville (3.1 percent), San Francisco (3.3 percent), Memphis (3.5 percent), Salt Lake City (3.6 percent), Boston, Minneapolis-St. Paul, and Philadelphia (3.8 percent), and Indianapolis (3.9 percent). A year ago, their rates were 4.5 percent, 3.5 percent, 5.2 percent, 4.5 percent, 2.7 percent, 3.3 percent, 4.3 percent and 4.9 percent, respectively. Of these nine metropolitan areas, Boston seems to be the one experiencing the largest increase in joblessness. The Baltimore area, only 35 miles north of Washington, posted a 4.5 percent rate in September. A year ago, the Baltimore rate was 4.9 percent.

Of the 257 metropolitan areas for which September data are available, 48 had over-the-year decreases in their unemployment rate of 1 percentage point or more, and 39 had increases of that magnitude. Sixty-seven areas had rates below 4 percent, while 12 had rates higher than 8 percent.

Unemployment Rates in Selected Major Metropolitan Statistical Areas*

MSA	September 1989*	September 1988
1. Washington, D.C.	**2.8**	**3.2**
2. Nashville, TN	3.1	4.5
3. San Francisco, CA	3.3	3.5
4. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	3.4	3.9
5. Memphis, TN	3.5	5.2
6. Salt Lake City, UT	3.6	4.5
7. Philadelphia, PA	3.8	4.3
8. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	3.8	3.3
9. Boston, MA	3.8	2.7
10. Pittsburgh, PA	3.9	5.6
11. Indianapolis, IN	3.9	4.9
12. Milwaukee, WI	4.0	3.4
13. Cincinnati, OH	4.0	4.8
14. Portland, OR	4.1	4.2
15. Denver, CO	4.1	5.0
16. Oakland, CA	4.2	4.5
17. San Diego, CA	4.2	4.3
18. Seattle, WA	4.3	4.6
19. Columbus, OH	4.3	4.7
20. Cleveland, OH	4.4	5.2
21. Oklahoma City, OK	4.5	5.3
22. Baltimore, MD	4.5	4.9
23. Dayton, OH	4.6	5.1
24. Newark, NJ	4.6	3.6
25. Los Angeles, CA	4.7	4.8
26. Kansas City, MO	4.8	5.2
27. Sacramento, CA	4.8	4.9
28. Phoenix, AR	4.9	5.7
29. Gary, IN	5.0	6.1
30. Jackson, MS	5.0	6.7
31. Dallas, TX	5.2	5.7
32. St. Louis, MO	5.2	5.3
33. Chicago, IL	5.5	5.2
34. Houston, TX	5.6	6.5
35. Buffalo, NY	5.7	4.6
36. Atlanta, GA	5.7	5.4
37. New York, NY	5.8	4.7
38. Birmingham, AL	5.8	5.8
39. Miami, FL	6.3	5.3
40. Montgomery, AL	6.5	6.1
41. New Orleans, LA	7.3	9.4
42. Louisville, KY	7.4	5.4
43. Detroit, MI	7.9	6.8

*Preliminary unemployment rates

States

When the District of Columbia (with a September preliminary unemployment rate of 4.9 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the twenty-fourth highest jobless rate in the country. This was seven notches above August's standing. Maryland's rate at 4.1 percent was up from 3.9 percent recorded in August. Virginia's jobless rate at 3.7 percent was up 0.7 percentage point from August. Maryland and Virginia ranked thirty-third and forty-third, respectively, in the standings of the 51 jurisdictions. A year ago, the rates in Maryland and Virginia were 4.5 percent and 4.1 percent, respectively.

Eleven states reported over-the-year declines of more than 1.0 percentage point in their unemployment rate. The largest reductions were in Louisiana (2.8 percentage points), Mississippi (2.4 points), and Tennessee (2.0 points). Over-the-year increases of 1.0 percentage point or more occurred in four states. Three New England states experienced the greatest increases—New Hampshire (1.5 points), Massachusetts (1.3 points) and Vermont (1.1 points)—followed by New York (1.0 percent).

September unemployment rates were below 4 percent in 12 states. Hawaii (2.2 percent), had the lowest rate, followed by Nebraska (2.9 percent) and Maine (3.1 percent). West Virginia (8.1 percent) had the highest rate.

Cities

In comparison with the 25 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with a September preliminary rate of 4.9 percent) had the sixth lowest jobless rate. This was two notches below the position held in August. The average unemployment rate of all 26 cities was 6.6 percent, up from 6.4 percent in August. A year ago, the average rate was 6.7 percent. There were ten cities with rates at 6 percent or below. The District of Columbia at 4.9 percent was in this grouping.

Detroit remains the only city with double digit joblessness. Detroit's rate at 12.3 percent was up a full percentage point and a half from August. The city has experienced double digit joblessness since June. A year ago, Detroit's rate was 10.2 percent. Six other cities posted rates at 8.0 percent and above—Newark (9.3 percent), Gary (8.8 percent), Atlanta (8.4 percent), New Orleans and St. Louis (8.1 percent each) and Buffalo (8.0 percent). The lowest rates were in Salt Lake City (3.8 percent), Pittsburgh (3.9 percent) and San Francisco (4.0 percent). Other low rates were recorded in Boston 4.0 percent, Columbus 4.7 percent and Philadelphia and the District of Columbia at 4.9 percent each.

Of the 26 selected central cities, seventeen reported over-the-year declines, with the largest being posted by New Orleans (2.2 percent), Gary (1.5 percent), Philadelphia and Cleveland (1.3 percent each), and Pittsburgh and Dayton (1.2 percent each). Of the nine cities with over-the- year increases, Detroit recorded the largest (2.1 percent), Newark (1.8 percent), and Milwaukee and Buffalo (1.5 percent each).

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Unemployment rates by state, September 1989

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities*

	September	
	1989*	1988
1. Salt Lake City, UT	3.8	4.1
2. Pittsburgh, PA	3.9	5.1
3. San Francisco, CA	4.0	4.4
4. Boston, MA	4.4	3.3
5. Columbus, OH	4.7	5.1
6. District of Columbia	**4.9**	**5.5**
7. Philadelphia, PA	4.9	6.2
8. Cincinnati, OH	5.2	6.2
9. Los Angeles, CA	5.3	5.4
10. Milwaukee, WI	5.4	3.9
11. Houston, TX	6.1	6.6
12. Dallas, TX	6.1	6.7
13. New York, NY	6.2	5.0
14. Cleveland, OH	6.9	8.2
15. Baltimore, MD	7.1	7.6
16. Dayton, OH	7.1	8.3
17. Chicago, IL	7.2	6.8
18. Birmingham, AL	7.7	8.1
19. Miami, FL	7.8	6.6
20. Buffalo, NY	8.0	6.5
21. St. Louis, MO	8.1	8.5
22. New Orleans, LA	8.1	10.3
23. Atlanta, GA	8.4	7.8
24. Gary, IN	8.8	10.3
25. Newark, NJ	9.3	7.5
26. Detroit, MI	12.3	10.2

*Preliminary unemployment rates

Unemployment Insurance Activities October 1989

The District of Columbia processed 2,910 claims for unemployment compensation in October 1988—a 28 percent increase over September. This was expected, and is a regularly occurring fluctuation associated with the quarterly change of the base period for determining monetary eligibility. There is a significant number of workers who became unemployed (and eligible for benefits) in September, but whose wages were higher in the base period effective as of October compared to the previous base period of eligibility. Several of these workers took the option of waiting until October rather than file in September. A surge of filers has occurred at the beginning of each quarter for the last three years (with the exception of the second quarter of each of these years). The third quarter increase in 1988 was 17 percent, and 12 percent in 1987.

All other measures dropped from last month with the exception of first and final payments, which increased 7 and 1 percents, respectively. Essentially, the same pattern occurred last October. The number of idle weeks actually compensated (30,430) this month, as well as the total benefit outlay ($6.1 million) represent drops of 3 and 4 percents, respectively from September.

Compared to October 1988 all measures increased. The greatest relative rise was 15 percent in total outlay, followed by 8 percent in the average weekly benefit amount. These are the direct result of legislated increases in the maximum weekly benefit amounts for the respective years.

The first ten months of 1989 activity showed 29,690 claims taken, compared with 30,820 in the same period last year—a four percent drop. On the other hand, the cumulative number of idle weeks compensated this year reached 341,670—a 2 percent increase from the 334,480 in the first ten months of last year. Continuing in the same manner, the $67.4 million total benefit outlay was 10 percent above the $61.5 payout in the same period last year.

The slightly increasing workload and the increases in the average weekly benefit amounts paid as a result of rises in the maximum weekly benefit amounts in recent years have combined to contribute to the overall outlay increase this year.

JOBS

The U.S. Bureau of Census is recruiting hundreds of people for **full-time and part-time jobs** to conduct the 21st Decennial Census of the United States this spring.

All persons hired to work on the Census in the District will be District residents. Jobs will pay from $5 to $8 per hour. Some more. Early evening and Saturday work is also available. All applicants must complete an application and taka a short written test. No car is necessary.

Census Jobs include:

- Enumerators
- Crew Leaders
- Clerks
- Supervisory Office Clerks
- Payroll/Personnel Clerks
- Stock & Supply Assistants
- Data Transcribers

Persons interested in applying should visit one of the following Department of Employment Service's Employment Centers:

1000 U Street, N.W.
25 K Street, N.E.
8th & Xenia Streets, S.E.
4210 Kansas Avenue, N.E.
1803 Belmont Road, N.W.
(Latino Center)
1217 Good Hope Road, S.E.
4017 Minnesota Avenue, N.E.

Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
October 1989

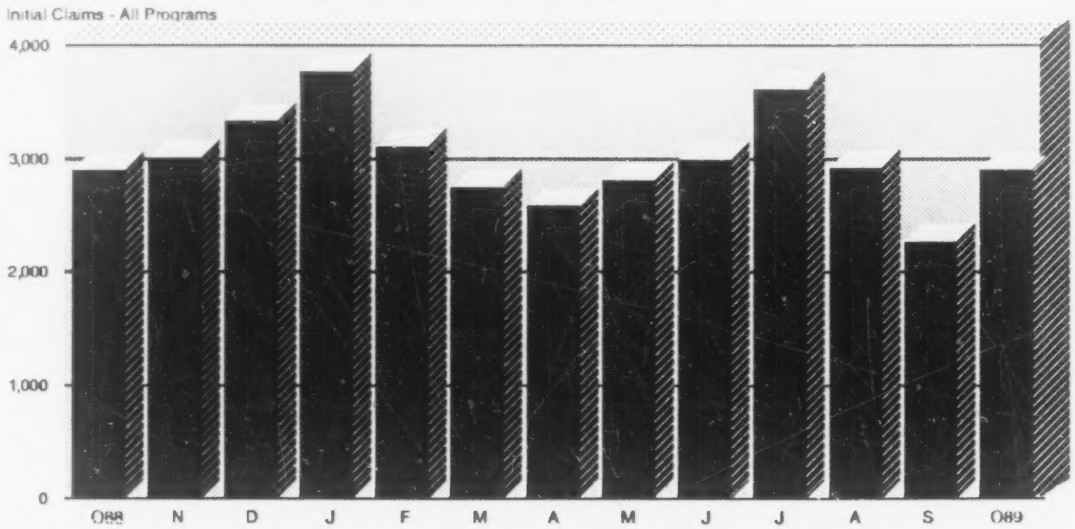
	Oct. 1989	Sept. 1989	Oct. 1988	% Change From Sept. 1989	% Change From Oct. 1988
State UI Program a					
Initial Claims Taken	2,768	2,149	2,745	+28.8	+0.8
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	29,200	30,097	28,203	-3.0	+3.5
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	27,936	28,968	26,442	-3.6	+5.7
Total Benefits Paid	$5,520,084	$5,745,792	$4,863,759	-3.9	+13.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$197.60	$198.35	$183.94	-0.4	+7.4
Number of First Payments	1,369	1,278	1,338	+7.1	+2.3
Number of Final Payments	764	769	756	-0.7	+1.1
Total Beneficiaries	7,912	8,463	7,780	-6.5	+1.7
Federal Program b					
Initial Claims Taken	112	91	127	+23.1	-11.8
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	2,061	2,069	2,032	-0.4	+1.4
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,290	2,417	1,909	-5.3	+20.0
Total Benefits Paid	$529,274	$563,950	$403,229	-6.1	+31.3
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$231.12	$233.33	$211.23	-0.9	+9.4
Number of First Payments	110	107	99	+2.8	+11.1
Number of Final Payments	104	86	70	+20.9	+48.6
Total Beneficiaries	664	689	547	-3.6	+21.4
Ex-Servicepersons Program c					
Initial Claims Taken	29	25	25	+16.0	+16.0
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	254	263	300	-3.4	-15.3
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	204	217	242	-6.0	-15.7
Total Benefits Paid	$44,512	$45,335	$47,971	-1.8	-7.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$218.20	$208.92	$198.23	+4.4	+10.1
Number of First Payments	21	18	17	+16.7	+23.5
Number of Final Payments	10	14	21	-28.6	-52.4
Total Beneficiaries	64	71	80	-9.9	-20.0
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	2,909	2,265	2,897	+28.4	+0.4
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	31,515	32,429	30,535	-2.8	+3.2
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	30,430	31,602	28,593	-3.7	+6.4
Total Benefits Paid	$6,093,870	$6,355,077	$5,314,959	-4.1	+14.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$200.26	$201.10	$185.88	-0.4	+7.7
Number of First Payments	1,500	1,403	1,454	+6.9	+3.2
Number of Final Payments	878	869	847	+1.0	+3.7
Total Beneficiaries	8,640	9,223	8,407	-6.3	+2.8

a. Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b. Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

c. No joint claims.

District of Columbia
Initial Unemployment Compensation Claims
October 1988 - October 1989



Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for October 1989 decreased slightly by 7 cents. Average Weekly Hours decreased only .1 hour. However, Average Hourly Earnings increased slightly by 3 cents.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products had a drop in Weekly Earnings of $30.43 and a drop of 2.5 hours in Weekly Hours. The Hourly Earnings were down 3 cents. Lower hourly earnings because of piece work or lower incentive pay caused the drop. Electric Machinery Equipment and Supplies had an increase in Weekly Earnings of $12.01 and an increase in Weekly Hours of 1.3 hours because of a longer scheduled workweek.

In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, Printing and Publishing reflects a decrease in Weekly Earnings of $13.10. Weekly Hours decreased 1.1 hours due to a shorter scheduled workweek.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
August 1989

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Oct. 1989	Sept. 1989	Oct. 1988	Oct. 1989	Sept. 1989	Oct. 1988	Oct. 1989	Sept. 1989	Oct. 1988
Total Manufacturing	466.04	466.11	458.85	38.2	38.3	39.9	12.20	12.17	11.50
Durable Goods	451.92	446.16	458.38	39.4	39.0	42.6	11.47	11.44	10.76
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	553.05	583.48	557.67	47.8	50.3	48.2	11.57	11.60	11.57
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	541.63	529.62	465.11	43.4	42.1	40.2	12.48	12.58	11.57
Other Durable Goods	385.53	373.75	430.61	35.5	34.8	42.3	10.86	10.74	10.18
Non-Durable Goods	478.22	483.91	460.32	37.1	37.6	37.7	12.89	12.87	12.21
Food & Kindred Products	463.74	444.64	430.85	43.3	41.4	39.6	10.71	10.74	10.88
Printing & Publishing	498.77	511.87	489.42	35.1	36.2	36.2	14.21	14.14	13.52
Other Non-Durable Goods	407.95	400.34	363.36	42.1	41.4	42.3	9.69	9.67	8.59

Total Production Workers	Oct. '89	Sept. '89	Oct. '88
	39,700	39,600	43,200

Note: Data reflects Revision to 1988 Benchmark

W A S H I N G T O N , D . C .

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MARION BARRY JR., MAYOR

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